

Angola

Angola has long been recognised as one of the most landmine contaminated countries in the world. MAG continues to work in Moxico the poorest and worst-affected province where the humanitarian need for safe land remains a priority.

Programme started:
1994

Core activities:

- Landmine clearance.
- UXO removal.
- Risk Education.
- Survey.
- Explosive Ordnance Disposal.



Work supports:

- Housing development.
- Agriculture.
- Education infrastructure
- Health infrastructure.

Success at a glance

...With people

Ensuring our work reaches those most in need and is sustainable is often our biggest challenge. Having a detailed and longstanding knowledge of the situation on the ground and how things really work at a grass-roots level is vital. Working with both local people and national and local partners means that our work has meaningful, long-term benefits.

- We're clearing high priority land for the population who are living near or in marked minefields. As people resettle in the villages of Moxico province the demand on safe land for housing and subsistence agriculture is growing.
- We're allowing the Provincial Government to carry out school and health clinic building projects on safe land to support the development of Moxico province.
- We're removing explosive items that people find in their daily lives, reducing the risk of injury and death which has greatest impact on those living in poverty in rural areas.

...In practice

We use a set of clearance assets and approaches to ensure the right tools are being applied for the best results. It's an approach we've called MAG's Integrated Clearance Methodology, which includes:

- **Minefield clearance:** Using manual teams employing national staff, removing and destroying dangerous items from known minefields.
- **Risk Education:** Provided for local communities to reinforce safe behaviour and to teach returnees to the villages how to protect themselves and their families.
- **Non-technical survey:** Carried out in suspected hazardous areas to specify where minefields are, so limited resources can be targeted.
- **Explosive Ordnance Disposal:** Roving teams respond to reports of UXO across Moxico to remove and destroy individual items safely.
- **Handheld Standoff Mine Detection System (HSTAMIDS):** MAG has been a leading agency in the trialling and refining of these innovative detectors. They use radar technology to differentiate between dangerous items and scrap metal fragments. This means contaminated areas with high metal content can be quickly and cost-effectively returned to communities.
- **Machinery:** Preparing contaminated ground using machines means we can clear vegetation at a much faster rate than manual teams. These tools also free up demining staff to use their expertise more efficiently.

85 million m²
of land released
since 2002



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